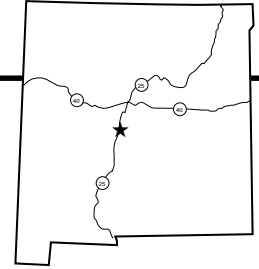




# State Wildlife Areas



## Bernardo Waterfowl Area

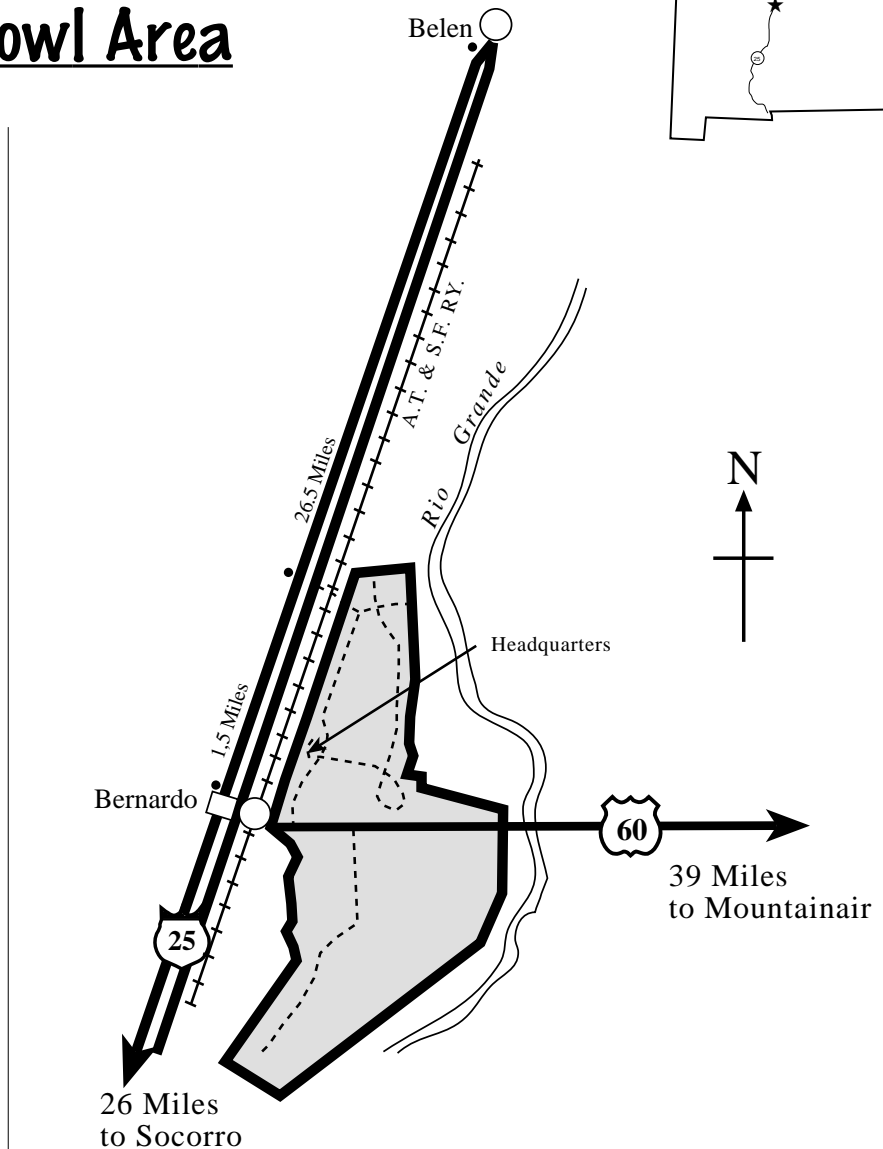
Pheasants flatten, disappearing into the stubble, and waterfowl wing into flight. Cranes lift off. Doves, too, whistle away from the unwary walker. But the patient and the quiet can spend hours watching these game birds and other colorful avians at the Bernardo Waterfowl Area. A wildlife trail complete with viewing and photographic towers are open to the public.

The Bernardo area first came under Department of Game and Fish control through a lease made in 1961 with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District.

Its 1,573 acres include about 450 acres of crops cultivated to provide winter feed for migratory and upland birds that share corn, grain sorghum and green feed raised here. Widely scattered cottonwoods, growths of tamarisk (salt cedar), a pond and a small marsh signal the fact that the area lies along a river bottom: The Rio Grande flows nearby.

In recent years, Hi-Line Canada geese have been raised here to augment a dwindling population that mostly winters in Colorado.

Hunting is permitted on the management area; fair to good hunting is had in the general



vicinity. Especially welcome is the population of snow geese in this part of the Rio Grande Valley. For those who enjoy bird watching, this is a fine place to

observe waterfowl, cranes and some upland birds during the fall and winter months.

There are no recreational sites on the management area.

Hunting  
Waterfowl

Fishing  
No

Boat Ramp  
No

Camp Sites  
No

Picnic Tables  
No

Toilets  
No